

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 08147 131839Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /069 W
-----140839Z 106771 /15
R 131510Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5041

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: EFIN
SUBJ: ADMINISTRATIVE REVOLUTION

REF CAIRO 7502,

1. TWELVE DAYS SINCE MAY 1 ANNOUNCEMENT OF "ADMINISTRATIVE REVOLUTION" HAVE BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY DAILY PRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS PROCLAIMING NECESSITY OF REVOLUTION AND DETERMINATION OF GOE TO EFFECT IT. PRIMIN MAMDOUH SALEM HAS APPARENTLY BEEN TAPPED AS VANGUARD OF GOE EFFORT AND HAS TIRELESSLY (AND TIRESOMELY) STUMPED COUNTRYSIDE MAKING SPEECHES URGING VIGOROUS ACTION ON ALL ADMINISTRATIVE FRONTS.

2. SEVERAL PROPOSALS FOR STREAMLINING ADMINISTRATION CAN BE CULLED FROM PRIMIN'S SPEECHES WHEN STRIPPED OF RHETORIC. SALEM HAS CALLED FOR:

- A. PURGE OF UNSUCCESSFUL ADMINISTRATIVE ELEMENTS
- B. INTRODUCTION OF INCENTIVE PROGRAMS TO ENCOURAGE PRODUCTION
- C. TAX REFORM

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D. ELIMINATION OF RED TAPE

E. DECENTRALIZATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY
TO GOVERNATES WITH EXCEPTION OF PLANNING AND FOLLOW UP
FUNCTIONS. (SUPPOSEDLY TO BE EFFECTED BY JUNE 1.) PRESS
REPORTS DID NOT PROVIDE DETAILS NOR DID THEY PREDICT TIME
FRAME FOR ENACTMENT.

3. ON MAY 8, SALEM ANNOUNCED THAT A DRAFT PLAN COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVOLUTION HAD BEEN PRESENTED TO THE CABINET. DRAFT REPORTEDLY TAKES FORM OF WORKING PAPER WHICH OUTLINES "TARGETS" FOR ALL AREAS OF PRODUCTION AND SERVICES INCLUDING GOVT MINISTRIES.

4. MAY 13 PRESS REPORT OF MAY 12 CABINET MEETING DID NOT PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS OF PLAN. CABINET DISCUSSIONS APPARENTLY FOCUSED ON PRIMIN'S PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH "HIGHER COMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE REVOLUTION" TO STUDY AND PROPOSE WAYS TO STREAMLINE ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY. COMMITTEE IS TO BE FORMED OF GOVT AND PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MEMBERS AS WELL AS REPS FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS. TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL NOT EXCEED TWELVE.

5. COMMENT: REFORM OF EGYPTIAN BUREAUCRACY WILL BE AN ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT TASK AND IT IS ENCOURAGING TO SEE SOMEONE OF SALEM'S STATURE TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN IT. UNFORTUNATELY, IT SEEMS THAT BEYOND A GENERAL DESIRE TO DO SOMETHING, THE GOE LACKS A CLEAR IDEA OF WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE OR HOW TO GO ABOUT DOING IT. OUTSIDE PRESSURE, FROM DONOR STATES PLUS IBRD AND IMF, TO GET THINGS ORGANIZED, MAY KEEP REVOLUTION IN THE FOREGROUND FOR AWHILE, BUT IT IS PROBABLY DOOMED TO FADE INTO MEMORY IN NEAR FUTURE UNLESS SALEM REMAINS ACTIVE AND COMMITTED. SO FAR, HE APPEARS TO MEAN IT.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: EFIN, EG
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